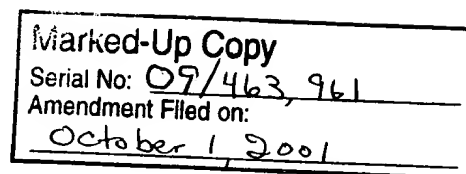


MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDMENTS

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
HIROSHI IKEDA ET AL : EXAMINER: VANOY, T.
SERIAL NO: 09/463,961 :
FILED: MAY 25, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1754
FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR PROCESSING EXHAUST
GAS OF SEMICONDUCTOR
FABRICATION

AMENDMENT



ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated June 19, 2001, the period for response having been extended to October 19, 2001, by a petition for extension of time filed herewith, please amend the application identified above as follows (marked-up copy of amendments attached):

IN THE TITLE

Please replace the title with the following title:

--PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING SEMICONDUCTOR
PRODUCTION EXHAUST GASES--.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title, please insert the continuing data:

--This application is a 371 of PCT/JP98/04666 filed October 15, 1998.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 6 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Please amend Claims 1-4 and 8 as follows:

1. (Amended) A process for treating exhaust gases, ~~the process~~ comprising
a step of [equipped] providing an aeration stirring tank having a stirring device
comprising a motor, a shaft rotatably connected to the motor, and a blade attached to the shaft
[,];

a step of introducing exhaust gases into an aqueous alkaline liquid in [an] ~~said~~
aeration stirring tank while stirring the aqueous alkaline liquid [,]; and

a step of further removing harmful gases from the gases discharged from the aeration
stirring tank.
2. (Amended) [A] ~~The process~~ [for treating exhaust gases] according to Claim 1,
wherein said [removal] step of further removing comprises a process of allowing the gases
discharged from the aeration stirring tank to come into contact with an aqueous liquid.
3. (Amended) [A] ~~The process~~ [for treating exhaust gases] according to Claim 1,
wherein said step of further removing [step] comprises a step of introducing the gases
discharged from the aeration stirring tank into a packed column filled with an agent.
4. (Amended) [A] ~~The process~~ [for treating exhaust gases] according to Claim 1,
wherein said [removing] step of further removing comprises a step of allowing the gases
discharged from the aeration stirring tank to come into contact with an aqueous liquid, and a
step of introducing the gases discharged from the aeration stirring tank into a packed column
filled with an agent.

8. (Amended) An apparatus for treating exhaust gases, ~~the apparatus~~ comprising an aeration stirring tank for introducing exhaust gases into an aqueous alkaline liquid while stirring the aqueous alkaline liquid; and

at least one device selected from a gas-liquid contact device for allowing gases discharged from said aeration stirring device to come into contact with the aqueous liquid, and a packed column filled with an agent for passing gases discharged from said aeration stirring device; [characterized in that] wherein

said aeration stirring tank has a stirring device comprising a motor, a shaft rotatably connected to the motor, and a blade attached to the shaft.

Please add new Claims 9-10 as follows:

--9. (New) The process according to Claim 1, further comprising forming in the aeration stirring tank a foam comprising the exhaust gases and the aqueous alkaline liquid.

10. (New) The process according to Claim 9, further comprising stirring the foam with the blade.--

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the abstract with the attached abstract.